CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An electronic assembly, comprising:
- 2 a substrate;
- an integrated circuit package mounted to said
- 4 substrate;
- a thermal element coupled to said integrated circuit
- 6 package; and,
- a thermally conductive phase change material that
- 8 couples said integrated circuit package to said thermal
- 9 element.
- 1 2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein said thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material is embedded into a mesh.
- 3. The assembly of claim 1, wherein said thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material includes a poly-olefin.
- 1 4. The assembly of claim 3, wherein said poly-olefin
- 2 includes a thermally conductive filler material.
- 1 5. The assembly of claim 1, wherein said thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material changes from a solid
- state to a liquid state at approximately 45 to 50 degrees
- 4 centigrade.

- 1 6. The assembly of claim 1, wherein said substrate
- 2 has a plurality of conductive pads along an edge of said
- 3 substrate.
- 7. An electronic assembly, comprising:
- 2 a substrate;
- a first integrated circuit package mounted to said
- 4 substrate;
- a second integrated circuit package mounted to said
- 6 substrate;
- a thermal element that is separated from said first
- s integrated circuit package by a first distance and from
- 9 said second integrated circuit package by a second
- 10 distance which is greater than the first distance;
- a first thermally conductive phase change pad that
- 12 couples said first integrated circuit package to said
- 13 thermal element; and,
- a second thermally conductive phase change pad that
- 15 couples said second integrated circuit package to said
- 16 thermal element.
- 1 8. The assembly of claim 7, wherein each thermally
- 2 conductive phase change pad includes a thermally
- 3 conductive phase change material that is embedded into a

- 12 -

4 mesh.

- 1 9. The assembly of claim 8, wherein said thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material includes a poly-olefin.
- 1 10. The assembly of claim 9, wherein said poly-olefin
- 2 includes a thermally conductive filler material.
- 1 11. The assembly of claim 8, wherein said thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material changes from a solid
- 3 state to a liquid state at approximately 45 to 50 degrees
- 4 centigrade.
- 1 12. The assembly of claim 7, wherein said substrate
- 2 has a plurality of conductive pads along an edge of said
- 3 substrate.
- 1 13. The assembly of claim 7, wherein said thermal
- element includes a first pedestal that is in contact with
- 3 said first thermally conductive phase change pad and a
- 4 second pedestal that is on contact with said second
- 5 thermally conductive phase change pad.
- 1 14. A method for assembling an electronic assembly,
- 2 comprising:
- assembling a thermally conductive phase change
- 4 material between an integrated circuit package and a

- 13 -

5 thermal element;

- 6 heating the thermally conductive phase change
- 7 material to change from a solid state to a liquid state;
- 8 and,
- 9 cooling the thermally conductive phase change
- 10 material to change from the liquid state to the solid
- 11 state.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the thermally
- 2 conductive phase change material is heated to a
- 3 temperature no less than 45 degrees centigrade.
- 1 16. A method for assembling an electronic assembly,
- 2 comprising:
- placing a thermally conductive phase change material
- 4 onto an integrated circuit package;
- 5 heating the thermally conductive phase change
- 6 material to change from a solid state to a liquid state;
- 7 placing a thermal element onto the thermally
- 8 conductive phase change material; and,
- g cooling the thermally conductive phase change
- 10 material to change from the liquid state to the solid
- 11 state.
- 1 17. The method of claim 14, wherein the thermally

- 14 -

- 2 conductive phase change material is heated to a
- temperature no less than 45 degrees centigrade.